

National Mediation Board



Press Release

Washington, D.C. 20572
(202) 692-5000

The National Mediation Board
in cooperation with
Passenger Railroad Management and Labor

is pleased to release the following information concerning the

**Conference on Labor/Management Relations
at the Passenger Railroads**

to be held

Thursday, March 23, and Friday, March 24, 2006
Wyndham Baltimore Inner Harbor Hotel
101 West Fayette Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
Telephone 410-752-1100

The conference is scheduled for a full day on Thursday and will conclude by noon on Friday. Additional information, including the tentative agenda, registration information and forms is included with this press release.

We hope to see you there.
Please mark your calendars.

*For further information, contact NMB Senior Mediator,
Les Parmelee, at 202-692-5063 or Parmelee@nmb.gov.*



Conference on Labor/Management Relations at the Passenger Railroads

*March 23 & 24, 2006
Baltimore, Maryland*

This conference will present speakers with views on issues important to passenger and commuter railroad labor/management relations such as collective bargaining, mediation, representation and arbitration under the Railway Labor Act. Insightful and engaging discussion opportunities for practical and innovative approaches to problem-solving will be conducted throughout the two day conference.

In cooperation with the Labor Relations Association of Passenger Railroads (LRAPR) and Railroad Labor Organizations, the National Mediation Board (NMB) is pleased to participate in this conference. The conference will provide an opportunity for you to meet and interact with NMB Board Members, NMB mediators and attorneys, as well as union and management representatives and practitioners from the nation's Passenger and Commuter Railroads.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Registration Fee

\$150.00 per person

\$175.00 per person late registration fee after Wednesday, February 15, 2006

What's Included?

Your registration fee includes: attendance at all conference sessions; daily continental breakfast; lunch on the first day of the conference; all food and beverage breaks; and an evening reception.

Wyndham Inner Harbor Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland

The Conference on Labor/Management Relations at the Passenger Railroads will be held at the Wyndham Baltimore Inner Harbor ([Wyndham Inner Harbor](#)). The hotel's convenient downtown location is connected by skywalks and complimentary shuttle service to Baltimore's waterfront Inner Harbor. The hotel is also only a few blocks from Oriole Park at Camden Yards, the National Aquarium, and the Maryland Science Center.

Conference attendees will receive a room rate of **\$141.00** (single) or **\$161.00** (double), plus applicable taxes of 12.5%, which is available for **March 22 and March 23, 2006**. Conference attendees are responsible for making their own hotel arrangements. Please call **1-800-WYNDHAM** to make your reservations. Be sure to identify your attendance at the "***National Mediation Board Passenger Rail Conference.***"

Note: Reservations at the conference rate are available through March 2, 2006. After this date, the hotel will release all unreserved rooms and the conference rate may no longer be available.

For more information and updates, please visit the NMB website at www.nmb.gov; contact Eric Weems at phone (202) 692-5030; fax (202) 692-5084; or e-mail mediation@nmb.gov.

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration fees must accompany this registration form.

To register, please mail the registration form below and a check for your registration fees made payable to ***Passenger Rail Conference*** to the address below. Registration forms and fees may be received at any time prior to the start of the conference; ***however conference refunds will not be made after March 2, 2006.***

**Conference on Labor/Management Relations
at the Passenger Railroads**

*Please list a separate phone number and e-mail address for each attendee (if applicable).
Duplicate if needed. Please print clearly.*

Name(s) _____
/ Title(s) _____

Company/Union _____

Address _____

Phone / Fax _____

E-mail address _____

Name preference on conference badge(s)

Registration fee(s) in the total amount of \$ _____ are enclosed for _____ person(s).

Checks only please; Make checks payable to: *Passenger Rail Conference*

Forward to: Eric Weems, Mediation Coordinator
National Mediation Board
1301 K Street, NW, Suite 250-East
Washington, DC 20005

Conference on Labor/Management Relations at the Passenger Railroads

Thursday, March 23 and Friday March 24, 2006

Wyndham Inner Harbor Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland

AGENDA

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2006 – Day 1

- 8:00 - 8:30 **Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 - 9:00 **Welcome/Opening Remarks**
 NMB Chair
- 9:00 - 9:15 **Introduction to NMB IT Initiatives (Ongoing interactive opportunity throughout the Conference)** *Web-based meetings, electronic record keeping, NMB Knowledge Store (on-line arbitration decisions)*
- 9:15 - 10:30 **Panel Discussion: State of the Industry – Legislative and Funding Issues**
 Moderator and Panel
- 10:30 - 10:45 **Morning Break**
- 10:45 - 12:00 **Bargaining I Update – Coalitions and Pattern Settlements:**
Current issues & trends; Impact on issues and settlements
 Moderator and Panel
- 12:00 - 1:30 **Luncheon**
- 1:30 - 2:45 **Bargaining II Update – Prioritizing and Costing Out of Proposals**
 Moderator and Panel
- 3:00 - 3:15 **Afternoon Break**
- 3:15 – 4:30 **Section 3 Arbitration – A facilitated discussion regarding best and worst practices, ADR technology, Arbitrator selection issues- qualifications, recruitment, diversity, etc.**
 Moderator and Panel
- 6:00 – 8:00 **Evening Reception – B & O Railroad Museum**

Conference on Labor/Management Relations at the Passenger Railroads

AGENDA

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2006 – Day 2

8:00 - 8:30 **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 - 9:45 **Point-Counterpoint – *Legal Issues: Concepts of impasse, status quo, major/minor determinations, obligation to bargain and more***
Moderator and Panel

9:45 - 10:00 **Morning Break**

10:00 - 11:15 **Mediation: The Parties and Mediator’s Perspective - Working Together**
Moderator and Panel

11:15–11:45 **NMB IT Initiatives/Mediation Wrap-Up**

11:45-12:00 **Closing Remarks**
NMB Chair and Members

* The agenda may be subject to change